

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 04411 070826Z

ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 XMB-04 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOE-15 H-02 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-20 OES-07
SP-02 SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 NRC-07 OPIC-06
EUR-12 /167 W

-----092685 071831Z /46

R 070656Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3465

INFO AMCONSUL BRISBANE

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

AMCONSUL PERTH

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

UNCLAS CANBERRA 4411

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS EXIMBANK

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, ENRG, EINV, BENC, BEXP, AS

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE DAMPIER-PERTH NATURAL GAS PIPELINE

REF: A) CANBERRA 02953, B) CANBERRA 04399

1. IF THE PRELIMINARY FEASIBILITY STUDIES CURRENTLY UNDERWAY
RESULT IN THE GO AHEAD FOR THE NORTH WEST SHELF OFFSHORE NATURAL
GAS PROJECT, CONSTRUCTION OF THE DAMPIER-PERTH PIPELINE, THE
BIGGEST PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION JOB EVER UNDERTAKEN IN AUSTRALIA,
IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN THE SECOND HALF OF 1981 FOR COMPLETION
IN EARLY 1984.

2. THE PIPELINE WILL BE BUILT FOR THE STATE ENERGY COMMISSION
(SEC) OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA TO CARRY GAS TO THE DOMESTIC AND
INDUSTRIAL MARKETS IN PERTH AND SOUTHWEST AUSTRALIA. THE SEC
HAS ALREADY ESTABLISHED A PROJECT TEAM TO COORDINATE
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THE WORK. SEC ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER ENGINEERING, DR.
R. R. BOOTH WILL SUPERVISE THE PROJECT. THE SEC WILL
MANAGE THE PIPELINE EVALUATION, DESIGN FINANCING AND
CONSTRUCTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS NORMAL PRACTICES
FOR MAJOR PROJECTS. HOWEVER, IT WILL APPOINT SPECIALIST
CONSULTANTS TO ADVISE AND ASSIST AS REQUIRED. IT HAS
ADVERTISED FOR FIRMS TO UNDERTAKE THE ENVIRONMENTAL

STUDY WHICH WILL BE THE FIRST STEP IN THE PROJECT WHICH IS EXPECTED TO COST ABOUT \$400 MILLION.

3. THE PIPELINE WILL FOLLOW A 1,500 KM ROUTE FROM AN ONSHORE GAS TREATMENT PLANT AT DAMPIER TO THE PROPOSED WAGERUP ALUMINA REFINERY. THE SEC IS ALSO STRUDING PIPELINE DIAMETERS BETWEEN 24 TO 30 INCHES OPERATING AT PRESSURES BETWEEN 1,000 AND 1,400 PSI.

4. PRELIMINARY MARKET STUDIES SUGGEST THAT PERTH AND ENVIRONS WILL REQUIRE BETWEEN 270 AND 330 MILLION CUBIC FEET OF GAS A DAY IN 1984 RISING TO MORE THAN 500 MILLION CUBIC FEET A DAY BY THE YEAR 2000. THE SEC HAS REACHED AN AGREEMENT WITH THE NORTH WEST SHELF JOINT VENTURERS FOR THE PURCHASE OF UP TO 300 MILLION CUBIC FEET OF GAS A DAY.
SQUIRE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NATURAL GAS, GAS PIPELINES, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CANBER04411
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780238-0338
Format: TEL
From: CANBERRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780688/aaaacxfj.tel
Line Count: 78
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a2485e90-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 CANBERRA 2953, 78 CANBERRA 4399
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2460134
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE DAMPIER-PERTH NATURAL GAS PIPELINE
TAGS: EMIN, ENRG, EINV, BENC, BEXP, AS
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a2485e90-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014